

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



Governor's Office of Planning & Research

July 22, 2022

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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GTS #: 04-SM-2022-00445
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Sam Fielding, Senior Planner
City of Millbrae
621 Magnolia Avenue
Millbrae, CA 94030

Re: 400 Millbrae Outdoor Advertising Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

Dear Sam Fielding:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the 400 Millbrae Outdoor Advertising Project. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system. The following comments are based on our review of the June 2022 MND.

Project Understanding

The applicant proposes to construct a double-sided Outdoor Advertising Display Sign (OADS) at 400 East Millbrae Avenue. The OADS will consist of two back-to-back light-emitting diode (LED) digital displays and the sign structure. These displays would be north- and south-facing that would be visible to vehicles traveling in both direction on U.S. Highway 101 (US-101) (northbound and southbound). Both billboard panels would be LED digital display panels used for general commercial advertising.

Billboard Installation

Caltrans is providing you notice that any advertising structure visible from the National Highway System (NHS), including US-101, is subject to the provisions of the California Outdoor Advertising Act outlined in California Business and Professions Code (BPC) 5200 et seq., and that Caltrans is required by law to enforce the Outdoor Advertising Act and Regulations regarding the placement of advertising along the highways. The Outdoor Advertising Regulations are available on the internet at:

[https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Browse/Home/California/CaliforniaCodeofRegulations?guid=I34CCD2F0D45911DEA95CA4428EC25FA0&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=Default&contextData=\(sc.Default\)](https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Browse/Home/California/CaliforniaCodeofRegulations?guid=I34CCD2F0D45911DEA95CA4428EC25FA0&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default))

Landscaped Freeway

Due to the location of the proposed billboard that is designated along a Classified Landscaped Freeway, please note that this sign is subject to the following BPC: 5440. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this article, no advertising display may be placed or maintained on property adjacent to a 1,000-foot or greater section of a freeway that has been landscaped with at least an average width of 20 feet of landscaping or that includes trees, on department-owned property at the same or elevated grade of the main-traveled way if the advertising display is designed to be viewed primarily by persons traveling on the main-traveled way of the landscaped freeway.

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the City of Millbrae is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the State Transportation Network (STN). The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' Right of Way (ROW) requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating Caltrans' ROW, digital copy of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

Please note that Caltrans is in the process of implementing an online, automated, and milestone-based Caltrans Encroachment Permit System (CEPS) to replace the current permit application submittal process with a fully electronic system, including online payments. The new system is expected to be available during 2022. To obtain

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information about the most current encroachment permit process and to download the permit application, please visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, or for future notifications and requests for review of new projects, please email LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Leong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

MARK LEONG
District Branch Chief
Local Development Review

c: State Clearinghouse